



Year 5 Spring 1 Newsletter



Welcome back to the Spring Term 2025! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind cards and gifts at Christmas time, they were greatly appreciated.

We have a busy and exciting half-term planned now that the children are comfortable with the Year 5 routines and expectations.

Can we please ask that students have the necessary equipment for lessons: one pencil case with the usual range of writing and recording materials, including a pencil and black pen, coloured pencils, a rubber, a sharpener and a ruler.

Topic Vikings

Through our lessons our learning will focus on the following...

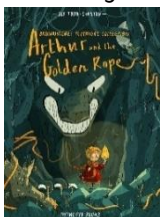
History – Understand the chronology of the Viking era. How do we know what information about the past to trust? What do the sources tell us about Viking life and are they reliable. Make comparisons between different times in the past and learn about different aspects of Viking life - food, trade, games, ships, homes. Viking beliefs surrounding afterlife and burial rituals compared to those of Ancient Egyptians. Look at the Jersey timeline and pinpoint when the Viking Era was in relation to other key events. Explain that Jersey has a distinct Viking heritage.



Geography – We will explore where Vikings came from, where they went and use our understanding of geography to reason why they may have done this. Identify key places such as York (Jorvik), The Isle of man (Tynwald) and explain their significance. Look at a map of Anglo-saxon kingdoms and compare to a map of modern counties. Use them to find key locations and symbols. Find out if the Vikings landed in St. Brelade today what would they find in given locations.

DT – The children will be designing and making masks depicting a Norse god. The children will also be creating dragon's eyes from clay.

Science – Children will, compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties. They will find out that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution. They will use their knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated. They will need to explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible. Children will need to give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests and find out which materials conduct heat? They will plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary - do all solids dissolve?



English - In writing, we will be focusing on the following two texts:

Arthur and the Golden Rope – A fantastic story about a bookish young adventurer who must find the courage to save his village and defeat the mighty beast Fenrir! The children will use this book to inspire their own narrative involving a key artefact, such as The Hand of Time, which serves as a tool to develop their stories plot.



Pet Dragon – A spectacular and fun spoof pet-care guide to dragons, with clear, concise information on everything from choosing an egg to feeding, grooming and training your dragon, plus spreads on taking your dragon to the vet and teaching it to fly! The children will study and explore this book before writing their own non-fiction text about looking after dragons.

During Guided Reading, we will be reading Michael Morpurgo's Kensuke's Kingdom.

Maths – This term we will be completing units on Fractions, Multiplication, Division, Area and Perimeter and Statistics. We will be using the White Rose materials to support our learning as well as a range of teaching and learning strategies.

For the children to work successfully through fractions, decimals and percentages it is vital that they have a secure grasp of their times tables and division facts. This should continue to be practised frequently in whatever method works for your child. Using Times Table Rockstars on a regular basis allows them this time to practise. We also recommend using this game as a means to revise: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> The children will be bringing home weekly paper times tables practice.

P.E. days are on Monday and Thursday.

Monday – Indoor PE Dance - The Year 5 Dance 'Physical' is a street style of Dance. The children will use a variety of dance techniques and elements to perform a class dance together. But they will also be responsible for creating their own dance phrase in Lesson 5 that will become part of the overall dance. This gives them to opportunity to be creative and express themselves - key elements in any dance choreography - cooperation, working together and communication will be important skills that the children will develop throughout the unit and should be emphasised throughout

On Thursday afternoons, the children will be developing their netball skills with our new PE teacher Mr Scur.

RE – The children will learn that Jews are a diverse group of people by investigating Census data and reflecting on the different cultural heritages of British Jews. They will investigate the Torah through examining how a Sefer Torah is constructed, it's place within the synagogue and how different Jews may interpret the Torah in diverse ways. They will consider how interpretation of Torah influences dietary choices. Finally, they will reflect on how Jewish practice is being adapted in the light of current thinking on gender and climate.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education) - Our focus this term is 'Health'. The children will be learning about the dangers of smoking, alcohol and drugs. They will learn about healthy eating, the importance of exercise and sleep. The children will also be taking part in a basic first aid lesson with Mr. Baudains. We will be taking about body image as part of this learning.

Music - In music this half term we will be continuing to follow the 'Charanga' scheme and will be focussing on modern music. Children will be learning the famous Adele song Make You Feel My Love.

Homework – This term we will continue to send home weekly times tables and spellings in a yellow data folder. We have increased the number of times tables questions to 99 to support fluency and we have also included

inverse questions. The children should understand how to use their times table knowledge to answer these questions.

We have almost finished revising the Year 3 and Year 4 spelling lists so we will be starting to work on the Year 5 and 6 list in the coming weeks. You will notice that the Year 5 and Year 6 spellings are much more challenging so the children may well need more support and practice with learning these spellings.

Homework will continue to be set on a Monday and the spelling test will also continue to be on a Monday.

Please can we ask that the children read for at least 20 minutes per evening. We are in the process of investing in an online reading diary 'Boom Reader' that the children and you as parents, will be able to track reading on.

Diary Dates:

5A – Wednesday 12 th February 5B – Friday 14 th February	Jersey Heritage Viking Workshop at La Hougue Bie Leave school at 9am and return in time for lunch at 12 noon. Parent helpers needed please.
11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Friday 28 th February	5B Bike ability (rescheduled from last term due to inclement weather)
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 20 th March	Swimarathon
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day and Down Syndrome Awareness Day
25 th and 27 th March	Parent Consultations
Friday 4 th April	Last Day of Term
TBC	Possible Science Forces workshop at Les Quennevais School Visit from Jersey Zoo

Useful Websites

Maths - <https://nrich.maths.org/> <https://completemaths.com/>

Spelling - <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/index.html>

Topic - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6/resources/1>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks1-english-viking-sagas/zkyqd6f>

We look forward to a busy and enjoyable half of the Spring Term.

Thank you for your continued support.

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